

A new British poll shows overwhelming support in the UK for dual key, and CDU head Strauss terms the zero option "nonsense." Mitterrand's outspokenness on INF raises some eyebrows in France. Moscow continues to hammer away on Washington's "militarism" and the US "propaganda" campaign aimed at Europe.

UK

A poll published yesterday in the Sunday Times reveals that 93 percent of the British public wants London to share control of US cruise missiles stationed in the UK. The survey also shows that only 9 percent feel US leaders have sound judgment and 16 percent think they are trustworthy. Still another poll shows only 7 percent view defense and foreign policy issues as important electoral issues as compared to 76 percent who feel economic concerns are paramount.

Germany

CSU leader Strauss on Saturday told fellow party members that the zero option is "impossible to achieve" and that the best the West could expect is Soviet dismantling of a "small portion" of their SS-20s. Referring to the zero option as "this nonsense," Strauss charged that the US "had never believed in it" but had adopted the option only to "appease" Bonn. Kohl, in an interview in Le Matin last week, denied he had promised President Reagan that West Germany would unequivocally go ahead with deployment. His SPD opponent Vogel, in a Saturday radio address, noted that "it would contradict all experience in international negotiations that the zero option should be the final position agreed upon."

France

According to press reports, during a television interview last week, former President Giscard implicitly criticized Mitterrand's outspoken position on INF, claiming that "we must not tell others what they should do insofar deploying nuclear missiles." The reports noted that during Giscard's tenure in office, he consistently refused to make public statements on INF. Some French journalists have voiced surprise at Mitterrand's recent comments, especially in light of the upcoming West German elections.

Denmark

Social Democratic leader Joergensen's most recent public stance on INF has him supporting the NATO two-track decision, but with the caveat that the Geneva negotiations be prolonged until an agreement is achieved. Joergensen early this month sparked a controversy by claiming that the majority of the Danish parliament did not back deployment.

USSR

TASS on Saturday said that President Reagan's recent statements on arms control showed that "Washington stubbornly refuses to display a constructive approach" to INF negotiations. Other TASS articles on Friday and Saturday stepped up the attack on the US information campaign for Europe. TASS also replayed an article by Admiral Sorokin for the military newspaper Red Star which warned that if the US deploys long-range cruise missiles, Moscow will respond with a similar system now being tested. In a Sunday piece, TASS again ruled out the possibility that Moscow would accept the zero option and charged that the US was deliberately "sabotaging" the INF talks while "feverishly forcing the building of launching sites in Western Europe." The article also cited recent comments by Vogel and his "expression of hope" that Washington would modify its position.